To

Miss Parker
Miss Sullivan
Miss M. V. Ball
Miss L. M. Ball
Mrs E. R. Davis; —

I find a number of individual members of the society ~~a board~~ ready to forbid my taking the liberty of making the society's report the whole of your communication to the publick which was handed me last night by the Misses Ball, but, since neither they nor yourselves possess any claim to decide, & the responsibility of determining falling on me, I have directed its insertion. There was no other course that seemed to me so good a one as this which I have taken: for it would be trifling with the society to expend their money in calling together a third meeting to reconsider what has been twice decided. By inserting your communication an extra expense in paper & folding (for I thought it just if it was done at all, to put it in the front of the report, where it would meet the eye before the report itself should be read) an extra expense of $7. will be incurred, which sum, (as I, ~~by presenting~~ it, occasion the expense,) I shall be happy to discharge. I regret that you had not recorded your names against the report at the Meeting, as I suggested, — I regret that your last communication is an ambiguous one; Casting ~~an reflection~~ imputation ~~on~~ against the Society for adopting, as a whole, a report against part of which a "love of Freedom & Justice" constrain you ~~as a whole to~~ express the most serious objections. Misses Ball assure me that such is not your intention. That this expression was not intended as an imputation against the Societys' love of Freedom & Justice, but merely as an assertion of your own freedom, & your own wish that Justice should be done you. I pointed out to them the liability to mistake, but they did not so ~~perceive~~ see it. I asked if they knew that this was More than all, I regret that you should ~~take this course~~ not have taken a different position from the outset.

There exists in the Society an apparently irreconcilable difference of opinion as to the measures by which the cause should be carried forward. What these differences are, or to what extent they exist or which of the different opinions is the best one. I am not now to say: I have long thought it likely they existed. and it has ever been my purpose so to conduct as to clearly manifest my own. I have never kept any opinion of mine back from you & have ever announced my intention In writing the report of the Society ~~to~~ ~~to Exp~~ express my own views, which, if the Society pleased to ~~exp~~ accept as their views, well & good. If not, equally well & good. They ~~are~~ were not, with Miss Ball & Miss Weston ~~[illegible]~~ their secretaries ~~ship~~ in any need of my services: which, having been ~~through~~ discharged ~~performed~~ ~~to the~~ to the utmost of my abilities, ~~I wish had~~ leave me only to wish that my abilities had been greater.

I am ever yours faithfully

M. W. Chapman.

"war, to the knife's point."

they said they did.

Ms. A.9.2.6.48

Caroline

Maria Weston

Maria Westo

Maria Weston